

ABERCARN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1956.

### Councillors:

Chairman	-	-	Councillor W. G. Cole, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	-	-	Councillor T. Maiden, M.M. (deceased March, 1957).
Vice-Chairman	-	-	Councillor A. P. Griffiths (appointed March, 1957).
Councillor M. J. Evans			Councillor A. Barton
" H. J. Reed			" F. Edwards,
" F. R. Salvage			B.E.M., J.P.
" V. A. Watts			" K. Tiley
" (Mrs.) A. Robinson			" J. L. Hewins
" F. H. Belcher			" J. D. Rees
" T. H. Coleman,			" J. Strange
B.E.M.			" A. E. England
" R. Lawrence			

### Officers:

Clerk & Solicitor	-	-	F. N. V. Meredith
Treasurer & Chief Financial Officer	-	-	T. H. Dixon
Medical Officer of Health	-	-	Dr. H. V. M. Jones
Engineer & Surveyor	-	-	Malcolm T. Benjamin
Public Health Inspector	-	-	Lloyd G. Hale
Deputy Clerk	-	-	C. Knight
Deputy Treasurer	-	-	G. Lavin



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
COUNCIL OFFICES,  
ABERCARN, MON.  
1956.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
ABERCARN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, COUNCILLOR MRS. ROBINSON AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour of submitting the Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Administration of your Area for the year 1956.

Area of Abercarn Urban District Area	9,543 acres
Population —Registrar General's Estimate ...	18,570
Inhabited Houses ... ..	5,536
Number of Houses owned by the Council ...	1,428
Rateable Value ... ..	1954 £73,646
	1955 £77,888
	1956 £117,866
Product of Penny Rate ... ..	1954 £273 0 0
	1955 £285 0 0
	1956 £402 0 0

### VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Births.

	1954	1955	1956
Males ... ..	164	160	159
Females ... ..	138	153	175
	<hr/> 302	<hr/> 313	<hr/> 334

Birth Rate of 1,000 of the Population ... 17.9

**Stillbirths.**

			1954	1955	1956
Stillbirth rate of 1,000 of the					
Population	...	...	0.43	0.43	0.64

**DEATHS.**

			1954	1955	1956
Females	...	...	98	105	100
Males	...	...	114	119	100
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			212	224	200
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

			1954	1955	1956
Death Rate of 1,000 of the					
Population	...	...	11.48	12.11	10.77
Birth Rate per 1,000 Monmouthshire		...			16.76
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Monmouthshire		...			0.51
Birth Rate per 1,000 England & Wales		...			15.70
Death Rate per 1,000 Monmouthshire		...			11.96
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births,					
Monmouthshire	...	...	...	...	28.96
Death Rate per 1,000 England & Wales		...			11.70

**INFANTILE MORTALITY.****Number of Deaths under One Year: 10.**

			1954	1955	1956
Boys	...	...	7	5	1
Girls	...	...	9	4	9
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			16	9	10
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			1954	1955	1956
Infantile Mortality Rate	...		39.67	28.43	17.8

## CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES.

					0 to 1 week.	1 to 4 weeks.	4 weeks to one year.
All causes	...	...	...	...	7	1	2
Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Cerebral Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Cancer (Malignant Disease)	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia (All forms)	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Congenital Debility	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Premature Births	...	...	...	...	5	—	—
Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Violence	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other causes	...	...	...	...	2	—	1

## ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISEASES—DEATHS.

				1954	1955	1956
Bronchitis	...	...	...	18	23	22
Pneumonia	...	...	...	10	12	6
Other Forms	...	...	...	6	3	3
				—	—	—
				34	38	31
				—	—	—

## CANCER DEATHS.

				1954	1955	1956
Males	...	...	...	20	22	25
Females	...	...	...	13	14	14
				—	—	—
				33	36	39
				—	—	—

## Infectious Diseases.

The principal Notifiable Diseases are Smallpox, Typhoid, Typhus, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Puerperal Fever, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Continued Fever.

There were no deaths from the principal Notifiable Diseases during 1956.

### CAUSES OF DEATH, 1956.

1955				1956	
M.	F.			M.	F.
119	105	ALL CAUSES	...	100	100
		Tuberculosis—Respiratory System	...	—	—
		Tuberculosis—Other Forms	...	—	—
		Sylphillitic Diseases	...	—	—
		Diphtheria	...	—	—
		Whooping Cough	...	—	—
		Meningococcal Infections	...	—	—
		Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—	—
		Measles	...	—	—
		Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	—	—
		Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	5	4
		Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	...	7	1
		Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	—	1
		Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	—	1
		Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	13	7
		Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	—	—
		Diabetes	...	—	—
		Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	8	22
		Coronary Disease, Angina	...	15	6
		Hypertension of Heart Disease	...	2	3
		Other Heart Disease	...	8	18
		Other Circulatory Disease	...	6	8
		Influenza	...	—	—
		Pneumonia	...	4	2
		Bronchitis	...	17	5
		Other Disease of Respiratory System	...	2	1
		Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	1	—
		Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	—	—

Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	2	1
Hyper-plasia of Prostrate	...	...	1	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	—	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases			6	14
Motor Vehicles Accidents	...	...	—	—
All other Accidents...	...	...	2	2
Suicide	...	...	1	2
Homocide and Operations of War	...	—	—	—

### ANALYSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS.

Diseases.	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 plus	Total
Scarlet													
Fever	...	—	—	1	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	7
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	4
Measles	...	2	6	6	4	7	15	—	—	—	—	—	40
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Whooping													
Cough	...	1	4	8	1	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	22
Puerperal													
Pyrexia	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia													
Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		3	11	15	7	13	21	1	—	1	—	2	74

**NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.  
NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS.**

			1953	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever	...	...	24	10	26	7
Dysentery	...	...	2	2	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—
Cerebral Spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	32	20	22	4
Meningitis	...	...	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	20	11	21	14
Whooping Cough	...	...	63	59	99	22
Erysipelas	...	...	5	—	3	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	7	3	6	3
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	239	2	374	40
			—	—	—	—
			393	108	551	74
			—	—	—	—

It is gratifying to note that during the year the number of infectious diseases reported by the Area General Practitioners reached an all time low record figure and, it would seem that the combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Prophylaxis has reduced the number of Whooping Cough cases, where in the last three previous years 221 cases of Whooping Cough were notified, as can be seen from the above table, only 22 cases were notified during the year under survey.



Again no case of Diphtheria was notified. There were no cases of the more important type of Infectious Disease such as Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) while no deaths occurred from Tuberculosis.

There were no cases of Paratyphoid Fever and only three cases of Food Poisoning were notified. These were mild in form and the patients quickly recovered.

## **IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.**

This service continues to be carried out by the County Council.

There were no reported cases of Diphtheria during the year 1956. If such cases are notified, isolation facilities exist at Bedwellty and Alteryd Isolation Hospital.

The response of Innoculation against Diphtheria continues to show a marked improvement as can be seen from the following table.

Children under five years of age are innoculated by Assistant Medical Officers from the County Council's Public Health Department at the District Clinics. School children by the Area Medical Officer at the Schools.

### **Immunisation in Relation to Child Population.**

Number of children at 31st December who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date, i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1937:—

Age at date of final injection (as regards **A**) or of reinforcing injection (as regards **B**).

	Under 1 yr.	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total.
<b>A.</b> Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the Authority's area (including temporary residents during the six months ended 31st December, 1956.	29	324	70	423
<b>B.</b> Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection ( <i>i.e.</i> , subsequently to primary immunisation at an earlier age) during the six months ended 31st December, 1956.	—	2	166	168

### Vaccination—Smallpox.

Vaccination for the year totalled 112.

The following table is submitted for your information:—

#### (I) Number of Persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during the period.

Age at date of vaccination.	Under 1	1-2	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
Number vaccinated ...	33	28	12	10	11	94
Number re-vaccinated	—	—	—	—	18	18

## INFANT WELFARE CENTRE ATTENDANCES.

Attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres for the year 1956, are set out in the following table for your information:—

Centre	Under 1	1955	1954	1950-1953
Cwmcarn ...	114	94	72	124
Newbridge ...	221	146	81	134
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	335	240	153	258
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Centre	Under 1	Over 1 Under 2	Over 2 Under 5	Total
Cwmcarn ...	1,288	361	310	2,249
Newbridge ...	1,771	409	272	2,813
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,059	770	582	5,062
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Attendances at the Cwmcarn Centre ...	2,249
Attendances at the Newbridge Centre...	2,813
Total Attendances for the year 1956 ...	5,062

Attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinics has increased markedly and the Monmouthshire County Council Consultative Clinics have also been busy, and beyond question done much useful work.

Inasmuch as the figures for Hafodyrynys are not available for the complete year under review, they have not been included.

## SUMMARY OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Total Cases on Register					
31-12-55 ...	87	96	14	14	211
New Cases, 1956 ...	8	4	—	2	14
Deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—
Recovered ...	1	4	1	—	6
Removed for Other					
Reasons ...	—	1	—	—	1
Removed from District	1	5	—	—	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	93	90	13	16	212
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

It is pleasing to record that the number of new Tuberculous notifications showed a substantial decline during the year, compared with 1955 when twenty cases were notified, while the overall figures shown in the Register decreased by some fourteen. In all the new cases mentioned above, the homes of the persons notified were visited and detailed family record history cards were compiled. This information was in turn sent to the County Medical Officer and Area Chest Clinic, while all family contacts were advised to visit the Area Chest Clinic for medical examination.

Additionally, as the Committee will be aware, periodic visits were paid to the Urban Area by the Mobile X-Ray Unit, resulting in several cases being brought to my notice.

Although much useful work is done by the Mobile X-Ray Unit, I feel that this work could be further enhanced by more co-operation by the residents of the Areas visited by the Unit.

### **Annual Return of Food Poisoning Out-Breaks in the Area of the Abercarn Urban District Council for the year**

**1st January, 1956, to 31st December, 1956.**

In accordance with Circular 46/49 (Wales) dated 24th May, 1949, Returns as per Memo 188/MED (Appendix 1) are submitted herewith.

### **Annual Return of Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected).**

Local Authority Abercarn Urban District Council, year 1st January, 1956, to 31st December, 1956.

#### **(2nd) Food Poisoning Notification corrected Return to R.G.**

1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
3	—	—	—	3

#### **(3rd) Outbreaks due to identified Agents.**

Total Outbreaks ... Nil      Total Cases ... Nil

#### **(3rd A). Outbreaks due to Salmonella Organisms ... Nil.**

#### **(4th). Outbreaks of undiscovered cause.**

Total outbreaks ... 2      Total cases ... 3

#### **(5th). Outbreaks. Single Cases ... 2.**

Agent Identified	...	...	Nil
Unknown Cases	...	...	3

## **FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.**

### **SUMMARY OF DETAILS.**

**FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.** In all cases inquiries were made as to foodstuffs consumed immediately prior to the onset of symptoms. These enquiries proved of little or no avail, and in no case could food or drink be directly traced as having caused these sporadic outbreaks.

**AGENT CAUSING OUTBREAKS.** Bacteriological examination proved negative, and in each case the patient quickly recovered and regained normality.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE.**

*Medical Officer of Health :*

Dr. H. V. M. JONES, M.B. (Lon.), D.P.H. (Liv.).

*Public Health Inspector :*

LLOYD HALE, M.P.H.I.A., M.R.S.H.

### **Maternity and Child Welfare Services.**

These services are maintained by the County Council at Newbridge, Cwmcarn and Hafodyrynys.

### **Isolation Hospitals.**

There are no Isolation Hospitals in the Council's Area, but arrangements have been made for Infectious Diseases cases to be admitted to the Bedwellty Isolation Hospital, Aberbargoed, and Allt-yr-yn Hospital, Newport.

No cases of Infectious Diseases were required to be isolated during the year, 1956.

### **Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

It is now the duty of the County Council to administer this service. This duty is performed by their Area Medical Officers.

### **Ambulance Service.**

Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council now administers the Ambulance Service.

### **Bacteriological Examination of Pathological Specimens.**

Samples of Milk, Ice-Cream, Water and samples from the Council's Swimming Baths were submitted to the Laboratory at the County Hall for examination during the year.

## **Water Supplies.**

The Council is a constituent Authority of the Abertillery and District Water Board. The chief supply is obtained from Grwyne-Fawr Reservoir situated in the Black Mountains, Breconshire; subsidiary supplies are obtained from local sources. The water is of good quality and large supplementary quantities were obtained from Llanover Scheme. The water is sampled by the Board and from time to time by the Local Authority (who submitted samples for bacteriological examination). Where necessary the supplies were chlorinated by the Board's Officials.

Number of Houses with a piped supply	...	...	5,451
Number of Houses supplied from wells and springs			85
Approximate population supplied from Public Water			
Mains, direct to houses	...	...	18,335

During the year inspections were made of Water Supplies and systems generally, where the pressure was reported to be low. Upon inspection it was found that in almost all cases the corrosion of pipes was responsible for inadequate supplies for all domestic purposes. In such cases, Informal Notices and where necessary Statutory Notices under Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as amended by Section 30 of the Water Act, 1945, were served with complete success.

## **Sewers and Drains.**

The Council is a constituent Member of the Western Valley Sewerage Board. The Council's subsidiary sewers are connected to the Main Trunk Sewer.

During the year severe trouble was experienced in certain sections of sewers and drains, through mining subsidence. Time and again, long lengths of sewers settled in the ground, so much so, that the fall of the sewer was exactly opposite to its original lay.

## **Scavenging.**

Scavenging is carried out by direct labour twice weekly. The tip is situated in the Valley at Pant-y-reske, Abercarn, and is partially controlled.



## Refuse Disposal.

Regular inspections in connection with Rodent Control and Fly Breeding have been carried out, and extensive treatments for the elimination of rodents and flies are continually being undertaken.

## Rainfall.

The table shows the monthly rainfall, also the day of the month when the greatest fall occurred.

Month	Rainfall.	Greatest fall in 24 hours in inches.	Date.	No. of days with 0.01 ins. or more.
January	... 8.48	1.50	8- 1-56	17
February	... .75	.13	26- 2-56	9
March	... 1.57	.61	20- 3-56	6
April	... 1.73	.50	13- 4-56	9
May	... 1.51	.39	25- 5-56	6
June	... 3.11	1.12	3- 6-56	9
July	... 6.49	1.68	18- 7-56	19
August	... 6.29	1.17	12- 8-56	23
September	... 7.43	2.06	27- 9-56	12
October	... 2.38	1.00	1-10-56	12
November	... 1.46	.71	8-11-56	7
December	... 8.83	1.50	25-12-56	17
Total	... 50.03	2.06	27- 9-56	146 days

Rainfall is recorded at Abercarn Cemetery.

Height above Sea Level ... 539.9 feet.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

### Housing Conditions.

During the year, the number of separate dwellings completed by the Council at Trinant, Cwmcarn and Pant, respectively totalled 62.

Additionally, thirteen separate dwellings were built privately.

This small number of completed dwelling did not keep pace with the number of applications received during the year,

so much so, that if the houses to be cleared in the Clearance Areas and the houses included on the lists of Demolition are taken into account a very near approximate figure of the total requirements would be six hundred houses.

When considering the insatiable demand for houses in the Urban Area, one has not only to take into account that the Council, since 1946, have built slightly over 1,000 houses and yet as stated, some six hundred dwellings are still required, this demand, in my opinion, is caused by:—

1. Greater Industrial Stability. ...
2. The desire of each family to have a home for itself.
3. People desirous of better living accommodation.

It is interesting to look back in retrospection and see the growth of the Urban Area in population and in accommodation figures.

Research shows the number of houses, population figures together with the occupancy rate per house for the following years:—

Year		Population Figure	Number of Houses	Occupancy Rate
1901	...	12,607	2,254	5.5
1911	...	16,445	2,800	5.8
1921	...	20,480	3,618	5.6
1931	...	20,960	4,398	4.7
1941	...	Not available	4,495	
1951	...	18,610	5,116	3.5
1956	...	18,570	5,537	3.3

While the occupancy rate continues to fall and has reached its lowest figure over a period of fifty years, applications for new homes remain unabated.

Undoubtedly, there is an availability of accommodation in the Area, but before people can be suitably housed it would require vast power to be vested by the Council, whereby interchangeability of accommodation can take place.

### **Improvement Grants.**

Many applications were received for improvements of houses, which are devoid of facilities such as:—



An internal or accessible water closet.

A piped hot water supply.

Installation of bathrooms (where none at present exist).

Extensions or enlargements to existing kitchenettes, living rooms or bedroom accommodation, etc., as under the Housing Act, 1949.

### **Improvement Grants under the above-mentioned Act.**

(a) Number of Improvement Grants, 1956...	19
(b) Total number of Improvement Grants, 1949-1956, inclusive ... ..	48
(c) Amount of Improvement Grants, 1956... £3,867	
(d) Total amount of Improvement Grants, 1949-1956, inclusive ... ..	£8,848

### **Improvement Loans under the above-mentioned Act.**

Facilities are made available under the Housing Act, 1949, whereby the Local Authority have power to loan money for the repair of houses, within the Urban Area, which are outside the province of the Improvement Sections:—

(1) Number of Improvement Loans, 1946 ...	4
(2) Total amount of Improvement Loans, 1956 ... ..	£630
(3) Number of Improvement Loans, 1949- 1956, inclusive ... ..	11
(4) Total amount of Improvement Loans, 1949-56, inclusive ... ..	£1,570

### **Housing.**

Number of Dwelling Houses inspected ...	892
Re-inspected ... ..	114
Number of premises at which repairs and improve- ments have been carried out ... ..	274
Warning Notices served ... ..	327
Remedied without Notice ... ..	203
Statutory Notices served ... ..	67
Statutory Notices complied with ... ..	65
Statutory Notices not complied with ... ..	2

Number of Houses in the Area ... ..	5,365
Number of Houses owned by the Council ...	1,428
Number of Dwelling Houses erected during the year by the Council ... ..	62
Number of New Houses erected privately in the year 1956 ... ..	13

### Drainage.

Drainage stoppages dealt with, New Drainage connection, improvements and repairs ...	309
Disinfections carried out ... ..	38
Disinfectations carried out ... ..	12

The following statement is in the form prescribed by the Ministry :—

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:—
  - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected during the year for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... 510
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 643
  - (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ... Nil
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose Nil
  - (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 216
  - (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in respects reasonably fit for habitation ... Nil
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices ... 416
- Number of dwelling houses rendered fit for occupation in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... 203

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936		...	...	Nil
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repair			Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice			Nil
	(a) By owners	...	...	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners			Nil
	Number of houses under Circular 2845			Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—				
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	67
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Notice	...	...	65
	(a) By owners	...	...	65
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—				
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders			2
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—				
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	2

#### 4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a) 1.	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	80
2.	Number of families dwelling therein ...	157
3.	Number of persons dwelling therein ...	471
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	2
(c) 1.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	11
2.	Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	39
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	Nil

### INSPECTION OF MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

#### Milk and Dairies.

Certain registrations and licensing duties remain with the Local Authority in addition to the supervision of distributors and dairy premises, and the taking of samples for bacteriological and biological examination.

Additionally, samples were taken and tested for keeping quality. (Methylene Blue Reduction Tests). The Phosphatase Test is undertaken to ascertain whether the milk has been properly Pasteurised.

Number of Registered Distributors ... ..	39
Number of Premises registered as Dairies ...	39
Number of Dealers licensed to use the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" ... ..	21
Number of Dealers licensed to use the Special Designation "Pasteurised" ... ..	39
Number of Dealers licensed to use the Special Designation "Sterilised" ... ..	14
Number of Supplementary Licences granted	4

## Meat and Other Foods.

A large quantity of tinned and other foods were inspected during the year. The following articles were condemned as being unfit for human consumption:—

101 tins tomatoes.	34 lbs. corned beef.
63 tins corned beef.	81 tins milk.
36 tins beans.	15 tins peaches.
45 tins luncheon meat.	26 lbs. cheese.
26 tins pineapples.	25 lbs. shoulder ham.
35½ lbs. cooked ham.	10 tins stewed steak .
12 tins pears.	4 tins rice.
19 tins apricots.	2 tins sausage.
18 lbs. sausage.	1 leg of pork.
40 lbs. fish.	2 (12 lbs.) tins veal.
8 tins apples.	23 lbs. bacon.
5 tins pilchards.	1 tin cream.
7 tins strawberries.	3 tins fruit salad.
2 tins brislings.	7 tins brawn.
1 tin chicken soup.	6 bottles sauce.
6 lbs. butter.	1 tin sardines.
11 cucumbers.	2 tins carrots.
1 tin loganberries.	2 tins stewed steak pudding.
3 tins oranges.	3 tins tongue.
1 steak pudding.	1 tin mixed vegetables.
1 tin lambs tongue.	3 tins Irish stew.
3 tins pet food.	1 tin wimberries.
4 tins soup.	3 tins beef loaf.
1 tin syrup.	3 tins drinking chocolate.
1 bottle coffee.	1 jar marmalade.
1 tin raspberries.	51 lbs. beef.
35 tins peas.	

The following is the number of animals slaughtered and the amount of meat and offal condemned as being unfit for human consumption:—

**Carcases Inspected and Condemned.**

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Slaughtered ...	613	198	35	1,178	411
Number Inspected ...	613	198	35	1,178	411
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole Carcases con- demned ... ..	—	2	—	6	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ..	114	74	—	247	5
Percentage of number affected diseases other than Tuberculosis ...	18.43	37.37	—	20.96	1.19
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole Carcases con- demned ... ..	—	2	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ is con- demned for Tuberculosis	19	2	—	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected with Tuberculosis ... ..	3.09	1.01	—	—	—

# Prevention of Damage by Pest Act, 1949.

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1957.

	Type of Property.				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses including Council Houses.	All other (including Business Premises).	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3).	Agricultural.
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District ... ..	4	5,365	820	6,189	49
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	1	86	43	130	—
(b) Survey under the Act ... ..	1	347	85	433	28
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) ...	1	181	53	235	18
III. Total inspections carried out — including re-inspections ... .. (To be completed only if figures are readily available).	9	425	76	510	14
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II (which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major) ...	2	3	—	5	—
(Minor) ...	1	106	2	109	2
(b) Mice (Major) ...	—	—	—	—	—
(Minor) ...	—	21	43	64	2
V. Number of Infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A. ... (Figures should not exceed those given by Sect. IV).	3	130	45	178	—



	Type of Property.				Agriculture.
	(1) Local Authority.	(2) Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses.	(3) All other (including Business Premises).	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3).	
VI. Total treatments carried out — including re-treatments ... .. (To be completed only if figures are readily available).					Figures not available
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing) ...	—	7	3	10	—
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

The table as set out above is a complete Report for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1956. Additionally, two sewer treatments were carried out in February/March and September/October of 1956. The following are the figures:—

	No. of manholes		Bait taken Poison		Total
	treated	Prebait	small	good	
February/March ...	846	71	71	59	201
September/October	846	94	94	55	243

All individual complaints during the year, were dealt with, which entailed several visits by the Rodent Operator to one single reported case.



Additionally, business premises were treated and upon application, all Monmouthshire County Council School Canteens. All such premises were recharged for these services.

### Factories and Workshops.

Total number of Factories in the Area ...	8
Total number of Workshops in the Area ...	22
	—
Total ... ..	30
	—

These factories and workshops are periodically inspected in order that they comply with the Factories Act, 1937.

### Number of Defects.

Particulars	Number of Defects.				Referred to H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied				
Want of Cleanliness ...	4	4	—	—		
Want of Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—		
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—		
Other Nisances ...	5	5	—	—		
<b>Sanitary Accommodation:</b>						
Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—		
Unsuitable or Defective ...	6	6	—	—		
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—		
	15	15	—	—		

### Bakehouses.

A survey was undertaken to ascertain whether these premises were of the standard required by the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. In all cases, the owners or managers were interviewed and where required the necessary improvements were made.

### Fish Fryers.

Also, a survey was undertaken to ascertain as to whether these premises were of the standard required by the Food and

Drugs Act, 1955. In all cases, the owners or managers were interviewed and where required, the necessary improvements were made.

### **Licensed Slaughtermen.**

Several applications were received and granted by the Council during the year.

### **Swimming Pool.**

The Council's open-air Swimming Pool was not well patronised, unlike last year, due to the unfavourable weather during the summer months.

Water samples were taken, during the season, however, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, for bacteriological and Free Chlorine Examination.

All samples submitted to the bacteriologist were found to be satisfactory.

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Medical Officer of Health.

LLOYD G. HALE, M.P.H.I.A., M.R.S.H.,  
Public Health Inspector.



